# The Cimes

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Communications intended for publication i The Times should be tersely and plainly written and must in all cases be accompanied by the same and address of the writer. Rejected comcations will not be preserved, and only mar

TUESDAY, JULY 12, 1898.

### Not Honorable Resistance.

The shedding of blood is one of the supreme pleasures of the Spaniard. He is usually satisfied with the blood of bulls, horses and bull fighters, but the record of Spanish wars shows that his highest delight is the spectacle of human suffering. It is a matter of authentic history that even the women and the priests have been most activ in the torture of prisoners. The red savages of early America never devised so many original forms of pain as the Spaniards have employed.

It is this small regard for human life, this delight in bloodshed and suffering, that is at the bottom of the refusal to surrender Santlago and the delay of the Spanish government in applying for peace. Any other commander in the world except a Spanish general would avoid a needless effusion of blood. No other army ever continues a struggle that is obviously hopeless and can only result in piling up corpses. So far from further resistance being honorable, it is atrocious. To offer up lives as long as there is the least hope of success, as thought its soldiers ought to do and long as anything is to be gained by resistance, is heroic and honorable; but has been the most glaring thing in the to send men to slaughter from pure obstinacy indicates a contempt for man kind that is only characteristic of the savage.

Nothing but constant familiarity with been taught nothing of the value of beasts that perish they will conquer or die, lacking that higher courage that sustains defeat with fortitude.

While the crowds are gathering around the bulletin boards, and all American hearts are beating a trifle faster with pride over the gallant deeds of our soldiers and sailors, it is well to give a moment's attention to the woman's side of this war. It is not the work of women to endure long marches. wounds, and death, for the sake of her has given the man she loves to the army now fighting in Cuba who would not far rather be at his side, if that were possible, than waiting in suspense two thousand miles away from him. Even to delicate and nervous women, who have no wish to leave the secure shelter of home, it seems far easier to share their husbands' or their sons' hardships than to stay at home in bodily ease and the mast, and went-down with her. comfort; and there are some women. who inherit the dash and daring of sol dierly fathers, to whom danger and adventure are pleasant in themselves. In the Civil War these women went as nurses in the hospitals, and both in the North and South there were some who bravely took up the burdens which their men folk had laid aside, and carried or the farm, or the business, as best they could. In this war, however, there is no Sanitary Commission, although it seems as if there might well be a reorganization of that famous society. That was where the real Spanish hono There is nothing for most of the wives, and sisters, and mothers, and sweethearts, of the soldiers to do but to live their commonplace, everyday lives and scan the daily papers for every line of

The American nation is above all a nation of homes. Through all our history, there has been a distinct sentiment in our literature and our society against anything, no matter what, that could possibly tend to interfere with to let it be known, whether truthfully or otherwise, (and, sad to say, it sometimes is otherwise), that he is devoted to his wife, a good son, and a good father. Wherever an American builds hinted that the American man is not master in his own domicile, at which

husband is not, in that or any other respect, the most perfect and delightful of men. All this gentleness and chiv-alry on the part of American men binds them just so much closer to the wome of their households, and makes their loss the more irreparable and the more heart-breaking. And so, all the more honor to the wife who faces the future, with her babies in her arms, and bide her husband godspeed when he goes to fight for his country; and to the mother who loyally gives her son to the caus of an oppressed people, and to the American woman, wherever she is, who is watching and waiting for news from Santiago with a double anxiety, because the name of one she loves may be in the list of the fallen!

Involuntary Evidence of Crime. It would be a very interesting task in view of the history which has been made during the past three months, to make a compilation of the opinions and arguments printed by certain newspapers during February and March. The files of thest papers are things which their owners will keep sedulously out of sight for some time. In them ap-peared, among other things, learned and wise demonstrations of the fact that the Maine might have been, and probably was, blown up by internal explo

The naval victory in the bay of San tiago furnishes two examples of warships which were blown up from the inside—the Vizcaya and the Almirante Oquendo. These warships will not run away-not for the present-and they are where large numbers of people can see and eventually examine them. In both cases interior explosions wrecked the ships and their condition is exactly similar to that in which the Maine would have been had she been wrecked by an internal explosion due to carelessnes on the part of her officers or crew Up to this time there has been no such ase available for examination, although there are a few on record. armor-clad is so very modern a thing, and it construction so essentially different in many particulars from that of the old-fashioned vessel, that people who did not know very much about naval matters hesitated to give any opinion as to the cause of the destruc tion of the Maine until they had had a chance to study the subject. Experts said at once that she had been wrecked by an external explosion, probably a submarine mine, and that was the report of the Board of Inquiry. However for several weeks the columns of certain newspapers were filled with arguments to the contrary, which sounded plausible, and those who did not know nough about battleships to detect their falsity were misled for a time.

Now, however, Spain itself has giver a perfectly involuntary and convincing demonstration of the fact that the Maine was blown up by a submarine

## Bombast Versus Bravery.

Front the very beginning of trouble with Spain, the oratory of the Spaniard has been in evidence. It is still prominent. The other day Gen. Martinez Campos declared that in order to maintain the honor and dignity of Spain, he himself would pick it up, even out of the gutter. And a Spanish lieutenant who had been captured by the Cubans sent a message to Gen Pareja, informing him of the fact, and received the reply, "Seventeen Spanlards should have been able to cut

their way through the enemy." Perhaps they should. But the fact is that they did not. The discrepancy between what the Spanish nation could do, and what was actually done, history of the nineteenth century

The fact is that "Spanish honor" is a

thing which has been badly overworked. It has had to bear the burden of all sorts of things, while shirking the brutalizing scenes which mark the the task which rightfully belonged to it. Sunday sports of the Spaniards could | The honor of a nation should prevent harden men to this degree. They have its government from sanctioning th murder and abuse of helpless people life and nothing of its duties. Like the and the blowing up of battleships in the night by treachery. National honor which cannot prevent such perform ances is decidedly too weak to reverse the laws of nature and make inferior soldiers into able and efficient fighters. Understanding these things, the American nation has concluded that Spanish honor is mainly composed of that material which the irreverent call gas. There was a cartoon in a New York paper recently which perfectly expressed the American idea on this point. It represented a Spaniard, badly bruised, bandaged and court-plastered, giving utterance to the remark, "Spanish honor is now satisfied.-Well, what are you

laughing at?" There are some Spaniards who have demonstrated in the eyes of all the world their pluck and determination, though not their skill, as fighters There was the captain of the Span'sh ship Ulloa, at Manila, who, when his ship was disabled, nailed the colors to There were officers and soldiers at Santiago who fought with desperate energy. Were it not so, there would be no glory for Americans. But it is to be noted that the men who are doing the fighting for Spain are not spending their breath in grandloquent speeches abou Spanish honor, and if they are like Admiral Cervera, they are not inclined to torture and abuse helpless victims. According to Hobson's account, Cervera showed him every courtesy which the American nation could have asked. came in-not in the bombast of politicians and bomb-proof generals.

## Erratic Litigation

In the midst of wars and rumors of wars, a judge of Adrian County, Mo., has been wrestling with a curious lawsuit. It appears that a farmer named Sturgeon, in that county, hired a man named Walker to kill rats, and said that when Walker had killed one thousand rats, he should have one cent aplece the home. The strongest bid which a for them, if he presented their talls in politician can make for popularity is evidence. Whether Walker found that there were not one thousand rats on Sturgeon's farm, and that this generous offer had been dictated by the inflamed imagination of the farmer, who thought father. Wherever an American builds his house, he takes particular care for the comfort and convenience of his wife and children. Other nations have had their laugh at us for this, and have their laugh at us for this, and have tried to kill use rat knows that to kill the composition of the composi usand'is not a job which one would choose for relaxation, and rats, too, are wont to make a racket and do an that that is his own affair; and his wife amount of mischief which often is becomes indignant at the idea that her to the belief that there is a whole

ony of them when there are really only e or two families.

Walker walked up to his employed ofth seven hundred and fifty talls, and said that he would like as per agreement, a cent for each tail. The farme ild that that was not the agreement what he said was that he would pay ten dollars for the talls of one tho and rate on the farm, that was not his lookout; the rat talls were of no use to im; what he wanted was to have the rats killed, and enough of them killed so that there would be a perceptible diminution in the trouble which they caused; and he judged that that could not be done without killing a full thousand. Then he examined the talls, and found more fault. He said that some of the tails were very small. Walker said that those rats were young. This, though a better argument than the one which the Italian guide offered Mark Twain (he said that the reason there vere two skulls of John the Baptist was because the small skull was of John as a little boy) did not satisfy the farmer. He declared the small tails were those of mice, and he was not going to pay for mouse tails when the contract called for rat tails; it was not in the bond. The hired man took his rat talls and his tale of woe to the courts and got a favorable verdict, but the case was appealed, and Sturgeon is still trying to get out of paying that seven dollars and a half.

The first spasm of sense in Spain is the eported determination to deal directly with the United States in making peace.

The idea has budded that the United States regulars had something to do with the fighting at Santiago as well as the Rough Riders. As Stephen Crane remarks, when a second sergeant takes out troop because its captain, lieutenant and first sergeant all gordown in the first five minutes' firing, it is fair to infer there nas been considerable trouble. The new field tactics were expected to afford a larger measure of protection to the officers, but either the tactics are defective or the officers declined the protection.

The rumor that the enemy had escaped from Santiago was incredible. It is not like an American commander to be igporant of the abandonment of a closelyinvested town.

General Campos can easily sacrifice his popularity by taking up the tangled threads of Sagasta's sacrificial policy. It equires many of the qualities of the emagogue to conduct affairs in Spain without becoming an object of execration.

If Germany only wants to be assured hat a stable form of government shall e established in the Philippines, she has made a good deal of fuss for nothing. There never was the least reason to think the United States would allow apything but that kind of government in the islands that are to pass under its control.

The presence of a competent and postive medical man has done a great deal for the comfort and safety of the army before Santiago. - After establishing a first-class hospital at Chickamauga Lieut. Col. Nicholas Senn, an assistant surgeon general, has reached Cuba and begun a crusade against the conditions that have put 2,000 men on the sick list. He is the professor of surgery at Rush Medical Colege, in Chicago, and has achieved promnence for his experiments with gunshot wounds. He threw himself into the war with energy and has been tireless in providing for the care of the troops. He believes the army can be saved from severe oss by yellow fever or the climatic fever that has affected so many, by proper attention to sanitary conditions. He dis covered that the water supply of the soldiers was polluted and took immediate

Spain is said to regard our terms of peace as impossible. That, as a matter of course. The Spanish mind is unable to conceive of a straightforward transaction in which a nation says positively what it will accept at the first utterance. international negotiations in Europe are like buying and selling at a Cairo bazaar. Each party is expected to demand much more than it hopes to get and to haggle over the business until the half-way point is reached. Spain, however, should have learned in this war that some impossible things are easy to the United States. Montojo and Cervera are quite persuaded of that.

As might have been known, the Dons cannot appreciate war when conducted in a spirit of kindness and generosity. In all our bombardment of Cuban ports and works the ships quit firing short of decis ive results and the works were immediately restored. At San Juan the enemy was allowed to fire the last gun, with the Spanish colors still flying for no other conceivable reason than that Sampson did not want to inflict all the damage he could. The consequence was that Spain proclaimed the repulse of the Americans and a large body of Cubans who were prepared to join the insurgents abandone their design and some of them became Spanish volunteers. War cannot be conducted to triumph with soft gloves,

Schley says: "The victory belongs to every officer and man of the fleet." Will broken for this? .. .....

### WIG-WAG MEN TO THE FRONT. Washington Men, Under Capt. La-

mar, Going to Sontiage, Rockville, Md., July 11.—Capt. William stationed at Washington, D. C., left that place on Saturday evening with a com pany of the Signal Corps, which was re cruited in Washington, Baltimore, and Montgomery county for Charleston, S. C., where they will be taken aboard the auxiliary cruiser Yale and transported directly to Santiago de Cuba, where they vill report to Gen. Wilson's divisio whose staff he has been assigned with the pay of lieutenant colonel, but still re-taining his commission as captain.

Their duties will be to assist in signal-ing to the cable station news of the bat-tles and victories and assisting also in the construction of telegraph and tele-

## A Monster Fishing Cork.

A Mounter Finking Cork.

(From the Baltimore Sun.)

Herman Vobbe, of 2218. Jefferson Street, lay placed on exhibition in the Sun countun a monster lashing cork. The cork, which seet at inches long, is painted in fortylors, red. white and blue predominating, of on one side of the sinker is a representait the ill-fated battleship Maine lying in oil Morro Castle, in the harbor of Havana, on the opposite side is pictured the torpedo 
Vinsion. On the Suster is painted the 
une caste, the flar of the Jinited States and 
the outst in which this country has 
discovered by busing shells. Mr. Yobbe 
that the States is the largest one ever 
and any he was at work on it for two

## THE TERMS OF PEACE.

Spain Willing to Sue Under Certain New York, July 12.-The Herald prints

the following from its European edition, dated Madrid, July 11: The papers which state that peace ne gotiations are actually going on are not affairs is that the political soil is using iligently prepared, in view of a solution

The word "peace" is written in big letters at the head of leading articles in the principal newspapers. The government wishes peace deeply, and is intensely anxious to know what terms the United

ly anxious to know what terms the United States is willing to grant.

If America sees the way to anything like the terms which may save Spinian honor, the war is at an end. If, on the contrary, the terms are harsh and sweeping; that is, if American Jingoes dictate the terms, their confreres here will inevitably come on top with their program of war a outrance. If the moderates in America gain the day, the moderates here will predominate.

To explain the situation simply so that every one who in the slightest degree has followed the course of secent Spanish pol-

followed the course of recent Spanish politics can readily understand there are to-day two men in Midrid who are watching unceasingly for the moment, almost at hand, when the present ministry shall fall. They are the grudite, peace-loving Silvela, on the one side, and on the other Care. Weyler whose terrible requisition exert as evil an influence in the govern-ment here as he did in Cuba, and who hates bitterly Americans. Behind him is Senor Romero Robledo, the champion of war at all costs, of war to the last

Simply the facts I have just mentioned Simply the facts I have just mentioned I give specially that the cabinet in council at Washington may know absolutely the condition of affairs here, and that it is in their absolute power to bring in either the peace party or Weyler, Robledo & Co., which might mean a savage and useless prolongation of the war and compileations not stopping short of dan-gers to the monarchy, revolution, etc. Premier Sagasta, on leaving the council this morning, in answer to a question, said that the moment had not come for discussing the terms of peace, but I have the best authority for the statement that the government is in accord that such a time will be ripe when the impending fall

of Santiago or surrender of Manila has taken place. In fact, any further disasance against the unlimited resources brought to bear by the United States. Sagasta is an out and out patriot, and according to the words of one of his cabinet has to take into consideration, not only the dignity of the army, which has fought so heroically, but also the future of the large body of Cuban volunteers, far outnumbering the rebels, who give their services to the mother country, and who cannot be left to the mercy of the insur-

nights ago that what Spain wants is Cube under American protection, which she feels sure will be just, and not under that of the insurgents, who she knows once on top would exercise a barbarous and summary vengeance upon all who have been loyal. On this account General Blanco is all for war as the only means of protections blanch. war as the only means of protect

## WATCHING FOR PIRATES.

British Warships Leave Vancouve

for Alaskan Waters. Victoria, B. C., July 12.—In response is reported, to the request of United States Consul Dudley, of Vancouver, Admiral Palliser, commanding the British Pacific squadron, staffoned at Esquimalt has dispatched her majesty's ship phion, a second-class cruiser, and the sloop of war Icarus, mounting nine guns, to cruise the waters of the North to reports that have reacted the ears of the coasul, is hidden in the vicinity of Dixon's Entrance, through which the treasure ships pass on their way south.

The fleet was fit Vancouver in connec-tion with the celebration, and citzens there were surprised yesterday to see the men-of-war hoist their anchors and slip off to sea. Inquiries were made and according to the nayal authorities, the admiral directed them, on the information received, to take steps to prevent any holding up of shaps for the purpose of looting. Although probably only American ships would be stopped, the injury would not be confined to them, as many of the miners on board with gold would be British subject. the naval authorities, the be British subjects.

Seafaring men here are divided in opinion as to the verity of the report of Seafaring men here are accounted to plnion as to the verity of the report of the privateer's presence on the coast. Many, especially those who have interests at stake, believe in the existence of the vessel, while others doubt it. One thing, however, is certain, a strong feeling of sympathy with the Americans ing of sympathy with the Americans prevail at Esquimalt, and officers speak strongly in disfavor of the privateers

## A MAN-FATING SHARK.

It Bites the Hend Off a Body Being

Long Branch, N. J., July 12.-Early this morning the headless body of a man was washed ashore here. The arms were also gone, and the bones of his legs were

Yesterday two Long Branch fishermer discovered the corpse of a man floating off Gallilee. They were towing the body ashore when a twenty-foot man-eating shark appeared and bit off the head of the corpse. The tow-line was severed and the body sank.

The body found today is supposed to be the same one. There are more sharks than usual off the Jersey coast this year, and several of the man-eating variety have recently been encountered.

### A WOMAN TO BE ELECTROCUTED Mrs. Pigee Sentenced for Murdering

Her Stepdaughter. New York, July 12.-Mrs. Martha W Place, who was convicted last week of stepdaughter, Ida Mildred Place, on Feb ruary 7, was sentenced this morning by Judge Hurd in the county court, Br lyn, to be put to death at Sing Sing in the week beginning August 29. She sobbed hystarically when sentence was pronounced, but made no scene as she was led away to the prisoner's pen.

Ellicott City, Md., July 12-Sophi Georgie, the infant daughter of Surgeon amuel M. Dickson, of the battleship Massachusetts, died suddenly at Ellicoti City yesterday. The fatal attack was cerebro spinal meningitis and the in-fant's age was fifteen months. Surgeon Dickson's family is spending the Sum-mer here at Patapaco Heights. The child will be buried tomorrow at St. John's Cemetery, Howard county. The family's home is in Washington.

The Kniger's Colossal Egotism. ave succumbed to its

## ERBEN'S SUCCESSOR

Capt. Bartleft to Succeed the Re tired Head of the Coast Patrol. New York, July 12.—The Tribune of this norning says that Rear Admiral Erben, who has been in charge of the coast pa-trol ever since it was organized, and who has been retired from active duty, will be succeeded by Captain John Bartlett, who will have charge of the work, with headquarters at Washington, instead of in this

as to the cause of this change, one of them being that Admiral Erben had been ordered to adjourn the board in charge of coast defense and reconvene it at Wash-ington, and that he had delayed in doing this, with the result that his success

Rear Admiral Erben was one of the few fficers on the retired list who were called back to active duty when war was declared. His salary on the retired list is \$4,50 a year, and while he was on active duty

a year, and while he was on active duty he received \$6,000. In answer to various inquiries, Admirai Erben said yesterday afternoon:

"It is true that I have been relieved from active duty by the Navy Department. The reason for my being so relieved is that the work assigned to the coast defense board has been accomplished. The vessels on both the outer and inner coast defense lines have been ordered to Cuba, with a very few exceptions. Of the mosquito fleet there are now on duty as coast patrol boats only thirteen vessels, from the northernmost coast of Maine to the southernmost point of Texas. The remaining vessels of this fleet have been ordered to duty in West Indian waters.

"The statement that I was relieved because I failed to obey orders from the Navy Department to transfer the board's headquarters to Washington, is without foundation, to the best of my knowledge and belief. The order to make the transfer was received on the 5th instant, and directed that the change be made as soon as practicable. There was no hurry about

directed that the change be made as soon as practicable. There was no hurry about the matter—and it was no easy thing to close the headquarters here immediately. In addition to all the papers relating to

In addition to all the papers relating to the coast defense system, there were all the archives of the Rodgers board to be also removed.

We were, however, ready to go to-morrow, when the new order arrived, directing, the board 10, proceed to Washington at once. So far as I understand, it will be practically dissolved, some of the members of the board being assigned to other duties and Lieuts. Marshall and Kent looking after the personnel of the naval reserves.

Kent looking after the personnel of the naval reserves.
"Personally, the relief is agreeable to me. The work of organizing the coast defense system has been carried to such completion that it can very well be directed now from Washington. I had purchased passage for Europe when war broke out, and now that the naval war, in my opinion, is ended, I am glad to be set free to carry out my plan of a European trip, which I think will begin in September.

September.
"Lieut: Commander Jacob W. Miller
will have charge of the coast defense in
this district. There will be little for him
have district. There will be little for him to do however, beyond guarding mine fields, to which work only vessels are at present assigned."

## THE BRITANNIA.

A Steel Seagoing Tug Enters the Naval Service.

Mr. B. N. Baker, president of the Bal imore Storage and Lighterage Company, yesterday formally transferred to the merican Government the large steel tug Britannia, one of the finest and most capable tugs in Baltimore harbor. In capable tugs in Baltimore harbor. In the afternoon the Britannia sailed from Baltimore for New York, where she will be delivered at the Brooklyn navy yard. Capt. Alonzo Dunn and Mate Hugh Muir were the only ones of her permanent crew that volunteered to remain by her, and if the offer from the Government will justify them; both officers will accompany her in whatever duty she may be selected to perform.

The Britannia was built in Philadelphia in 1888 by Neafle & Levy to the order of the Baker & Whiteley Coal Company. She is of steel throughout, is 130

pany. She is of steel throughout, is 135 tons gross register, and 68 tons net, 96 feet 4 inches long, 20 1-2 feet beam and 10 feet deep. She has a complete electric plant and searchight, and is a very fast It is the intention of the Baltimore place her by another tug equal in all re-

### DEATH OF ALBERT GUERRY. He Was a Southern Artist of Great

Washington, Ga., July 12.-Mr. Albert Guerry, one of the most eminent artists in

His renius appears in the work which he has left on the walls of several State capitols and a number of public institutions. The fine portrait of Gen. Robert Toombs in the rotunda of the State capernor Atkinson in the State library are his work, as also a portrait of Mrs. At-kinson at the Girls' Normal and Industrial kinson at the Girls Normal and industrial School. A smaller portrait of Governor James M. Smith in the executive office was also painted by him. He has painted a portrait of John C. Calhoun for some public-spirited South Carolinans, and a portrait of Senator Zeb Vance for the

State of North Carolina. It was expected that he would paint the portrait of the late Charles F. Crisp, whose portrait was ordered by the last general assembly.

Mr. Guerry is a South Carolinian, but much of his life was ment in Georgia, and for several years Atlanta had been his home.

He resided for many years at Washington One. State of North Carolina. It was expect

Mr. Gue shaves a widow and three bright http://www.wido.have begun to battle brayely and the world as newsboys.

Reading July 12—A number of cigar makers employed by Price & Spatz, of this city, quit work owing to a reduction in wares. On three studes of cigars they were cut is cents per thousand, the firm alleging that it was necessary because of

Fr per week, while at the cut rate they will wake but \$6. An offer of compromise at one-half the reduction was rejected. Vienha, July 12.—This morning's results in the international chess tournament were as follows: Lipke, Steinliz, Tar-rasch, and Pillabury beat Baird, Alapin, Marco, and Blackburne, respectively. Schiffers and Schlechter drew.

The Rice and Old Shoe Ceremony

## HER ENDLESS CHAIN

New York, July 15-Sies Natali Schenck, a young woman of Babylon, advertised for ten-cent contributions to buy ice for the Red Cross. She acted at the suggestion of the secretary of the society. Instantly letters begun to pour in, nearly every one containing any-where from ten cents to ten dollars. A but the letters continue to come. Her grandfather, Mr. Matthew Morgan, is trying to devise some means to stop the flood. He said: "I do not know where it is going to end. We have already turned ever \$1,200 to the Red Cross Society, and we have \$1,100 in bank, to say nothing of 300 worth of postage stamps and a few thousand letters not yet opened. My granddaughter was told that it was deaired to raise \$4,000 for the ice fund. She

sired to raise \$4,000 for the ice fund. She didn't expect to raise a tenth part of it. We have more than \$5,000 in sight now, and no human being can guess how much more will come along.

"There is only one grain of comfort in the whole business. There are about 77,000,000 persons in the United States. The census statistics show that about 22,000,000 of them cannot read, so that we cannot get letters from more than 55,000,000 unless the chain gets out of the United States.

time being to these letters. There are six members of the family and they pass

to smoke and where I rejoiced in a quiet game of solitaire has been turned into a workshop where there is nothing but baskets and baskets of letters and sheets full of envelopes and circulars.

"Then man keeps a fire going back of the ice-house all day long to burn up the letters. He feeds the fire until it gets a good start and then sprinkles the lawn. After half an hour of sprinkling he goes back to the fire."

Thus far between fifteen and twenty

back to the fire."

Thus far between fifteen and twenty thousand letters have been received, and unless the chain is broken this number will be more than doubled before the week is out. Some of the letters received yesterday came from California, while others came from adjoining towns. Thus far every State in the Union has been heard from. The greater number of letters is from New England.

Some of the letters are numbered 100.

ters is from New England.
Some of the letters are numbered 100, while others are numbered only 2. These show the rounds that have been reached. If there was no break in the chain the twenty-first round would mean more than 1,000,000,000 letters, and at 10 cents each these would yield \$10,000,000. Some person with a love for figures has calculated that this would buy a glacier nine-ty-five miles long, nineteen miles wide and two miles deep, at current prices. ty-five miles long, nineteen miles wide and two miles deep, at current prices. Postmaster F. A. Dowden takes his burden with philosophy. He has to employ extra help to handle the big mail. Babylon is a third-class postoffice, and the postmaster gets \$1.800 a year, out of which he must pay his deputy and clerks. Mr. Morgan yesterday sent a message to the Laffan Burcau, asking that it inform the wide, wide world that Miss Scheneck wanted the chain broken as quickly as possible.

## JOY MINGLED WITH SORROW.

A Blessing at Edison's Home Tens pered by Great Grief. New York, July 12.—In the period of few hours came gladness and sorrow in the Edison home. Sunday was a day of anxiety to the illustrious inventor. It terminated in a great joy, tempered by keen grief. The cause of joy was a stranger at Lleyellyn Park-a smail pink individual in a befrilled slip, nestled in was a soldier's form lying stark under the torrid sun of Santiago.

On the day that brought another baby On the day that brought another baby Edison into the world, news, came that Mrs. Edison's brother had died. Theodore Miller was one of the Rough Riders. When war was declared he was studying law in this city. A son of Lewis Miller, of Akron. Ohlo, and a last year graduate of Yale, he had every prospect of entering upon a successful career at the bar. But his patriotism was too strong to resist the call to arms, and he was one of sist the call to arms, and he was one of the first to enlist in Roosevelt's famous troop. Like his brother, Assistant Engineer John V. Miller, he went to the

There was no thought of occavement of Edison's home at West Orange, N. J., on Sunday morning. All thoughts were centered on the invalid, his second wife. A doctor was in the house, and the establishment was controlled by a nurse, who wore an air of the greatest important of the control was controlled by the said thirter. ance. Servants rushed hither and thither without paying the slightest attention to the inventor, who paced the floor of his study in solitude and gloom.

study in solitude and gloom.

Such was the situation when a telegral Such was the situation when a telegram arrived. It was very brief, merely announcing to Mr. Edison that his wife's soldier brother was dead. No explanation was given, and Mr. Edison could only conclude that Theodore Miller had succumbed to wounds received in the furious skirmish in which the Rough Riders were engaged last week

mish in which the Rough Riders were engaged last week.

It was disquieting news to him. It seemed an ill augury for that most fateful of days. At the best, it could not but tinge with sorrow the rejoicing of a young mother, for he knew that his wife was deeply attached to her handsome brother. But bad news was forgotten when the quavering note of a babe fell on the inventor's ear. Thrusting his head from the door, eager for news, a passing handmald assured him that "it" was a boy, and a beauty. Not long thereafter he was at his wife's bedside, holding her hand and admiring the morsel of an Edison which the nurse had decked out in the soft white garments prepared for him. garments prepared for him.

Not for many hours thereafter did he pluck up courage to communicate his news to the mother. She wept softly, but it seemed to comfort her to hold her child the tighter to her bosom.

## SIGNAL MEN AT WORK.

Building for Volunteers.

Jacksonville, Fla., July 12.-Men in the Signal Corps encampment were busy at practice drill today. The camp comprises one battalion, companies A and B, under Capt. A. H. Giddings, chief sig-B, under Capt. A. H. Giddings, chief signal officer. Capt. R. L. Thompson, First Lieut. S. M. Butler, Second Lieut. William Mitchell and Second Lieut. William Mitchell and Second Lieut. H. W. Stamford, who is also quartermaster, ordnange and commissary officer, are the other officers. There are seventy-four men in the command. The officers are proud of the corps, which includes doctors, dentists, newspaper men, skilled electricians and experts in other lines. The extension of the telcphone lines through Camp Cuba Libre has kept the Signal Corps men busy for a week. Division and brigate headquarters are to be connected with corps headquarters and the city system of telephones. For this battalion the Government is having built at Atlanta an improved field telegraph train, which will be the best in the United States areay. It will carry twenty-five miles of semi-permanent

all the officers are volunteers. Capt. Giddings, however, has been for several years brigade general officer in the Connecticut National Guard. The men all wear the regulation uniform, but do not carry rifles. They are armed with 45-caliber revolvers while on guard and field duty.

## SURPRISING A SPANIARD.

Experience of a Gurbout Looking

for Mail at Manile. Baltimore July 12-The family of Mr. enry C. Jarrett, signal quartermaster on received a letter yesterday, dated May 13, giving an interesting account of the state of affairs in that part of the world, and describing the lives led by the men with the Asiatic squadron.

In his letter the writer says: "Just at present we are doing the meanest duty in the fleet, and that is blockading the lower entrance of the river running into the center of the city. The Spanish have two or three gunboats and torpedo launches still affoat which we come get at until the city surrenders, and, knowing their treacherous nature, we are obliged to keep a very bright lookthat as long as no treachery was attempted the city would not be molested. but so surely as they commenced any monkey business the governor's palace and the cathedral would go up in smoke inside of two hours, and that the city would follow. Just now they are very quiet, but that does not prevent us from letting them know we are watching, and that on the first funny break they nake we will jump on them with both

"We are lying about five miles away from the rest of the fleet, and every night the lights are extinguished and armed sentries placed all around the deck, with as she sees anything to burn a rocket, and I guarantee that thirty seconds after that rocket has been seen we will be ready to take anything that comes along The duty is hard and the strain on a man's nerves is something ferce. I don't mind getting into a scrap, but to keep on lying down night after night, not knowing whether you will wake up to find yourself salling through the air, with a leg or arm missing or not, is cer-

so far. Just at daybreak we made out a steamer's lights on the southern side of Corregidor Island, and as the daylight grew stronger we made her out to be a small steamer, painted white. We at once slipped our cable and steamed out toward her. Imagine our surprise when on getting closer we found her to be a small gunboat, with a big Spanish flag flying away as gay as you please. She came along as unconcernedly as if the Spanish fleet was in full possession of the harbor, instead of being sunk and burned. She was as pretty as a picture and we let her run along for a few min-utes, and then smacked a six-pound shell across her cutwater. To this she paid no more attention than if it had paid no more attention than if it had been a nosegay of Spring flowers. Then our old man got hot and yelled out: 'If they won't stop when politely requested to, why I'll stop her another way,' and immediately we sent a six-inch shell between her fore and main masts, the wind from the shot taking away the breakfast things spread out on the deck. She stopped quickly enough then, and up went the white flag. She proved to be the Callao, and had been down around the extreme castern part of the Philippine group.

"She had waited two weeks for her "She had waited two weeks for her mail, and then thought she would come up to Manila to see what was the matter, not knowing war had been declared, and ran right into the lion's mouth. When the lieutenant who commanded her came on board and was told he was a prize he was simply paralyzed, and at once in a very polite manner requested to know where the Spanish fleet was. He was told that some of the ships had been sunk and the rest were run on the beach and burned. The tears came into been sunk and the rest were run beach and burned. The tears came beach and burned, aver in a second, the poor fellow's eyes in a second, but he shrugged his shoulders and bravel asked what our captain intended doing asked what our captain intended doing with him and his men. He was utterly crushed by the loss of the fleet and his own ship, and had hard work to bear up. I smashed a fellow in the 'snoot' for laughing at him. I am fighting Spaniards at present, but I can't stand by and see a fellow that is down on his luck, and a good fellow besides, insulted, even though he is an enemy.

"There is no doubt among the boys here that the Spaniards are going to hor some of us before we get through with this business. They are a treacherous lot, and there has got to be some hard fighting before we get entire control of

## A FLAG FOR THE DIXIE

darylanders Send State Colors to the Auxiliary Cruiser. Baltimore, July 12.-The Maryland boys n the auxiliary cruiser Dixie have been sent a handsome Maryland flag. The flag

is ten feet hoist, eighteen feet fly and was made of the best American standard bunting.

It was the intention of the donors present the Maryland boys with a flag of better quality, but they were unable to find one ready made, and, in view of the prospect of the Dixie's leaving at once for European waters, it was deemed ad-visable to forward at once the best that

ould be found.

The flag was expressed to the bureau of squipment, United States Navy Department, whence it will be forwarded to the

## SHORT CROPS OF WHEAT.

Montgomery County's Output Far Below the Usual Average. Rockville, Md., July 12.—The farmers considerably over the failure of the wheat crop. A number of the farmers who have threshed their crops find that al-though enough straw passed through the thresher to make twenty-five bushels to

an acre, they did not realize over fif-Mr. Charles Pierce and Mr. John Dia-mond, two of the most successful far-mers in the county, are complaining be-cause of the smallness of the grain. Mr. Pierce says that on a field from which several years ago twenty-five hun-dred bushels of wheat were secured this year the yield was only fifteen hundred bushels.

## THE NEW JERSEY TROOPS.

Companies of the Fourth Regiment Getting Ready for Service. New York, July 12.—The members of

afternoon, when they assembled at their armory in Jersey City fast evening were loudly cheered. The men were ordered to report to be assigned to the various companies, and to receive their equip-

companies, and to receive their equipment.

Each man had the privilege of choosing the captain he is to serve under, unless the captain he already mustered in enough men to fill the ranks of his company. The Bayonne contingent arrived shortly after \$0 citock on special cars, and the Hoboken men marched from the North Hudson County railway station, at Pavonia Avenue, to the armory.

Some of the men who were active members of the National Guard were in fatigue uniform, but the majority were in civilian dress. It was a difficult task to get the various companies together, and to prepare the rolls in proper form. It was only completed after two hours of hard work, and then some of the rolls were not completed.

Capt: Derrom, whose company is a consolidation of Companies B and L, ran short fifteen men. Capt. See, who had thirty men more than he required, turned over to him those needed. He also supplied other companies with needed necruits.